I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EL 990375366 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 9, 2004

Signature: Leah M. Kjelje

Docket No.: 500862001500

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of: Dominique P. BRIDON et al.

Application No.: 09/657,336

Art Unit: 1648

Filed: September 7, 2000

Examiner: J. Parkin

For: LONG LASTING FUSION PEPTIDE INHIBITORS OF VIRAL INFECTION

## AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated June 9, 2004, for which a response is due on September 9, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

Conclusion begin on page 13 of this paper.

SF-1762489

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Application No.: 09/657,336 13 Docket No.: 500862001500

## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to <u>Deposit Account No. 03-1952</u> referencing docket no. 500862001500. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: September 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy A. Worrall

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